

Get a loan for your water system at 2.5% interest - or lower!



the WATER TAP

WASHINGTON'S DRINKING WATER NEWSLETTER

Special Edition February 2000

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loans:

You can afford water system repairs and upgrades...

The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) is more appealing than ever before, with reduced interest rates, better terms, no local match required and a streamlined application process.

2000 DWSRF Loan Facts:

New!

Interest rate on 20-year loans 2.5%

New!

Loan limit \$3 million per system

- Loan limit \$6 million for multiple system projects
- Reduced interest rates for systems in "economically distressed counties"
- Reduced interest rates for systems in "disadvantaged communities"
- No local match required
- Most Group A community and nonprofit non-community systems eligible
- Very small existing systems that will become Group A systems may qualify
- Loan fee 2% (may be part of loan)
- Approximately \$23 million available for project loans
- Financing available to both public and privately owned water systems.

Applications due July 3, 2000

Funds should be available by Spring 2001

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund: *Supporting Public Health and Economic Vitality*

Safe, reliable drinking water is critical to the long-term health and economic vitality of Washington's communities. Thanks to Washington's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, water system repairs and upgrades are within the financial reach of small- and medium-sized water systems statewide.

On-going program improvements make these loans an increasingly attractive water system financing option. Loan rates have dropped, and DWSRF administrators are considering other changes, such as a reduction in service metering requirements. Learn about these changes and more at workshops scheduled in March 2000.

Our state is a national leader in launching this important funding source and getting the money out to public water systems, particularly those that are privately owned. Nearly \$61 million in loans has been committed to water system repairs and upgrades in Washington since this loan program was introduced in 1997.

*Learn more about how you can use DWSRF: Public workshops
March 14, 15, 16, 21, 22. See Page 3 for details.*

 Washington State Department of
Health
Environmental Health Programs

DWSRF 1999 Highlights

- Nearly \$28 million in loans directed to public water systems statewide in 1999, including \$8 million to privately owned systems.
- Key public health improvements in Walla Walla and Bremerton, funded in part by the State Revolving Fund loans, were completed in 1999. The risk of illness from contaminated drinking water in these communities was reduced because of these improvements.
- Interest in DWSRF increased in 1999 with improved loan rates, terms and processing time.
- First payments from previous loans were received in 1999, generating additional funds for future loans.
- Cities of White Salmon and Bingen (Klickitat County) submitted a joint request in 1999 for \$3.8 million to switch from surface water to groundwater sources, improvements that are significant public health priorities for those communities.
- Oasis Water Company submitted a \$706,000 request in 1999 to repair the Desert Water Company System (Benton County), which has been in receivership.
- PUD of Pend Oreille County submitted applications in 1999 to upgrade two small systems totaling approximately \$419,000.



Washington's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program is administered jointly by the Department of Health, the Public Works Board, and the Board's administrative agent, the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development. Directing federal funds to states for these low interest loans was a key provision of the 1996 amendments to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. The goal of this funding source is to provide loans to water systems for capital improvements that increase public health protection and compliance with drinking water regulations.

What You Can Do

Not sure what repairs and upgrades can be supported by Drinking Water State Revolving Fund? Here are some details of recently funded projects.

Alderbrook Estates ~ Thurston County

This private water system, located in rural Thurston County, will connect to the City of Tumwater's water supply to bring it into compliance with Department of Health (DOH) drinking water standards. Renovations to the system include replacing existing water lines with larger ones to correct manganese buildup and improve water pressure, installing meters on each of the individual units and a master meter with backflow prevention. The project also includes capping the existing well, removing the pump house, repairing any damaged asphalt, recoating streets throughout the mobile home park, and installing a fire hydrant at the park entrance.

Loan Execution Date: September 20, 1999

Project Funding: DWSRF Loan	\$150,266.70
Other Sources*	\$16,210.00
Total Project Cost:	\$166,476.70

Blue Lake Summer Homes Water Users Association ~ Grant County

This private non-profit homeowners association will renovate its water system to comply with federal, state and county drinking water requirements. The project includes relocating the well site, well improvements such as pump and motor, source meter, depth indicator, pumphouse, pumphouse valving and telemetry; abandoning the existing well; transmission main installation; new storage reservoir; replacement of distribution system with 3,250 lineal feet of 6" PVC pipe; and installation of valve, hydrant, and service meter assemblies and appurtenances.

Loan Execution Date: June 29, 1999

Project Funding: DWSRF Loan	\$379,219.00
Other Sources*	\$42,500.00
Total Project Cost:	\$421,719.00

Moab Irrigation District No. 20 ~ Spokane County

Moab Irrigation District has started construction to extend a water main along Newman Lake. This extension will serve homes in three communities, many of which currently pump surface water from Newman Lake. The district has completed an environmental assessment in addition to the SEPA checklist to complete Spokane County's permit approval. Mitigation measures allow the water main extension to proceed along the sensitive lake shoreline. Installing a new distribution system and providing a new, reliable source of water will alleviate

public health concerns by eliminating microbial risk and low pressure problems and bring the system into compliance with DOH drinking water standards. In addition, all services will be metered, promoting water conservation.

Loan Execution Date: September 20, 1999

Project Funding: DWSRF Loan	\$486,600.00
Other Sources*	\$52,492.00
Total Project Cost:	\$539,092.00

Tahuya River Valley Water District ~ Mason County

The water district received DWSRF funding to correct some serious health and safety issues. At the time of application, telemetry between two source wells and the reservoir was damaged and required manual operation of pumps. The new telemetry will allow for remote and automatic pump control. Two blowoffs will be installed at low points to eliminate stagnant water, which resulted in high coliform readings. In addition, meters will be installed on all service connections.

Loan Execution Date: October 1, 1999

Project Funding: DWSRF Loan	\$107,223.00
Other Sources*	\$13,500.00
Total Project Cost:	\$120,723.00

Walla Walla Housing Authority ~ Walla Walla County

This project funds a water reservoir, telemetry, site work and piping for a 132-unit, low-moderate income farm labor camp located near the City of Walla Walla. The current reservoir is not in compliance with DOH drinking water standards. The project will improve and increase capacity to provide for both domestic water and fire flow. Metering and replacement of five substandard fire hydrants will be included in the project if sufficient funds are available.

Loan Execution Date: December 21, 1999

Project Funding: DWSRF Loan	\$305,457.00
Total Project Cost:	\$305,457.00

**Other funding sources include water rates, capital reserves, grants and loans.*

The Water Tap is published by the Department of Health, Division of Drinking Water, to provide information on subjects of interest to water system owners, water works operators and others interested in drinking water. Comments and questions are welcome. Past issues are available by writing to the editor, the Water Tap, Division of Drinking Water, P.O. Box 47822, Olympia, WA 98504-7822 or Email your request to DWINFO@doh.wa.gov. Past issues are also available on our website www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw

Registration Form



cut along line, follow instructions below

Please fill out and mail or fax to:

Public Works Board, PO Box 48319,
Olympia, Washington, 98504-8319
Attention: Leslie Hafford
Fax (360) 664-3029 • Phone (360) 586-1310

- ☐ Workshop Sign-up
- ☐ Request for 2000 DWSRF Loan Application & Guidelines

Name _____

Phone _____

Water System _____

Address _____

Workshop Location _____ # Persons Attending _____

Guidelines / Applications Requested _____

DWSRF Workshops

2000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Application Workshops

Workshops will be held from 12:30 - 3:30 p.m.

March 14 - Spokane Hampton Inn Spokane, 2010 S. Assembly Rd., Spokane, WA 99224, 509/747-1100, Sunset A Room

March 15 - Wenatchee Wenatchee Convention Center (Fuji 1-2-3 Room), 201 N. Wenatchee Avenue, Wenatchee, WA 98801, 509/662-4411

March 16 - Pasco Double Tree Hotel, 2525 N. 20th Ave., Pasco, WA, 509/547-0701

March 21 - Olympia Department of Labor & Industries (Auditorium), 7273 Linderson Way SW, Tumwater, WA 98501, Near Exit 101 on I-5, 360/902-5804

March 22 - Everett Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel (Whidbey/Camano Room), 3105 Pine Street, Everett, WA 98201, 425/339-3333

Note: Public Works Trust Fund Workshops will be held prior to the DWSRF workshops, from 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

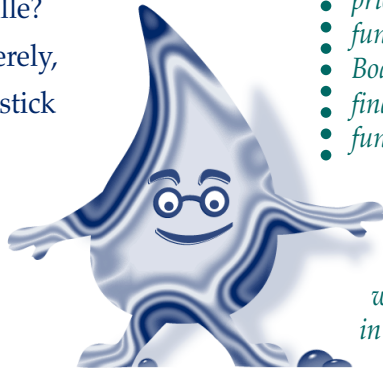
***DWSRF loan application forms and guidelines available by March 2000 on the internet at www.crab.wa.gov/pwtf*

Dear Dr. Drip...

Dear Dr. Drip:

The DWSRF loan process sure seems confusing. What happens to my loan application once I get it to you by the July 3, 2000 deadline? How long before I know if my project will receive funding? Should I stick around and miss the annual ice water witching this winter in Iceville?

Sincerely,
Ty Astick



- Dear Ty:
- Yes, indeed, Dr. Drip agrees that the process appears confusing, especially since there are multiple state agencies working with the applications. In Washington, the DWSRF is jointly administered by the Department of Health (DOH), the Public Works Board (Board) and their administrative agent, the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development.
- DOH reviews each project to determine eligibility for funding, ranks them by priority and drafts a priority project funding list, which is forwarded to the Board's staff for financial review. When the financial review is complete, the draft funding list and recommendations are presented to the Board for approval.

The draft funding list is then incorporated into a draft Intended Use Plan, which describes Washington's intentions in using the monies and is part of the grant

application the state must submit to EPA to receive the federal dollars that support the loans.

The Intended Use Plan is presented for a public hearing and a 30-day public review period. At the end of the 30-day period, taking into consideration any comments received during the public review process, the Intended Use Plan is finalized and submitted, along with the grant application, to EPA for approval. Once EPA approves the plan, the Board's staff begins offering loans to water systems on the priority project funding list by Spring 2001.

So, you can ice water witch this winter, but the spring thaw may find you immersed in your project!

Have more questions?

Contact Chris Gagnon, DOH Division of Drinking Water, (360) 236-3095 or chris.gagnon@doh.wa.gov

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**After-Hours Hotline
for Drinking Water Emergen-
cies**
toll free 1-877-481-4901
Call this number after-hours
when a problem:
• Threatens the health of your
customers or the integrity of
your system;
• Can't wait until the next
business day.



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